

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

This replacement paragraph is submitted to clarify the specification. Applicants submit that no new matter is introduced into the application by way of the substitute paragraphs.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 7, with the following paragraph:

According to the invention this is achieved with an apparatus ~~comprising the features of patent claim 1~~ for removing coverings laid on even surfaces having a support frame for mounting driving wheels and for accommodating a motor and a gear for driving the driving wheels. The apparatus also has a motor-driven separating knife. The invention is characterized in that at least one loosely rotatable support element is arranged on the support frame parallel to the driving wheels.